

# Edmonton Bulletin.

VOL. II.

EDMONTON, N.W.T., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1882.

No. 17.

## TELEGRAPHIC.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 16th, 1882.

Dr. Monro, formerly of the Winnipeg General Hospital, leaves for Edmonton by next stage.

Rev. John Black, of Kildonan, died on Sunday morning.

Gen. Rosser, chief engineer of the C.P.R. Co., has resigned.

Three new maps of the North-West have been issued. One shows the lands surveyed and the lands disposed of; also the Pacific railway, Hudson's Bay Co., school lands and post offices. Another shows the railways, towns, lakes, rivers and Indian reserve between Lake Winnipeg and the Rocky Mountains.

The Portage, Westbourne & North-western Railway Co. apply for an Act to empower them to extend their line from the present terminus to the forks of the Saskatchewan and thence to Peace River.

Alexander Begg, of Winnipeg, has been appointed land and emigration commissioner of the Pacific Railway Co. in England.

The Laird of Luggiehead, Drumsheal, Scotland, has arrived in Montreal on his way to the North-West to select land for a Scottish colony about being settled there.

A delegate of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Society is now at Ottawa negotiating for the purchase of Government lands for the establishment of an Irish Catholic colony in the North-West.

The Primitive Methodist Colonization Society has been promised six townships to colonize in the Qu'Appelle district.

It is announced that the Quebec Government has completed an arrangement for the lease of the Occidental Railway to several persons who have secured control of the Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Co., thus securing another monopoly.

An impression is gaining ground that the general election will take place before next session.

No business of importance transacted yet in the House of Commons. It is said that the Budget will be brought down on the 24th. Opposition members give notice of motion asking for correspondence and returns relating to the Syndicate, and several other matters concerning the North West.

BATTLEFORD, Feb. 17th, 1882.

Charles McIntosh and Hurley, of the Mounted Police, have succeeded in jumping Forget's claim. Four teams were engaged yesterday in hauling logs and rails for building and fencing.

A recent arrival from the south reports no snow in the Red Deer valley and cattle feeding out and doing well.

Many people have been taking up land in Battleford and vicinity, and several houses are now being built.

The editor of the Herald and Mr. Prongua are reported on their way to their western home. It is said that they are prepared with horse-power to draw a few miles of C.P.R. into Battleford if the Syndicate refuses to entertain their views.

Business is very good, and plenty of flour is passing through for the west.

A slight fall of snow to-day. The weather is very cold, but moderating.

R. S. McGinn arrived on Tuesday afternoon and left to-day.

HUMBOLDT, 17th Feb., 1882.

Weather cold and stormy. Thermometer 36 below last night. Some snow fell to-day. Mail here going west.

FT. PELLY, 16th Feb., 1882.

Stormy weather predominates. Thermometer 10 to 37 below zero.

Freighters are kept busy hauling supplies between Shell River and the Indian farm.

Mail left here to-day for the east.

Very few Indians are applying for relief at the agency here.

## LOCAL.

EXCELLENT sleighing.

FORTY-EIGHT below on Friday morning.

Fish from Pigeon Lake sell at \$6 per hundred in town.

MR. J. G. DAWES has rented his house by telegraph to Dr. Munro.

THE ball and raffle in McDougall's Hall last night was well attended. Mr. A. McLeod took the gun.

FARMERS have sold out the most of their poor grain and are keeping the balance at high prices for seed.

A TRAIN of sleds, with freight from Battleford for J. Haly & Co., arrived at Ft. Saskatchewan on Monday last.

FRESH eggs are to be had, in very limited quantities, at 50 cents per dozen, and butter is scarce at 55 cents a pound.

THE average attendance at the public school is about thirty, and the children are said to be making remarkable progress.

ON Thursday Mr. J. Lake sold the lot, 120 feet front, between McDougall's Hall and Oliver's store, for \$400 to Mr. J. A. Macdougall.

A FIVE dollar bill on the bustled Prince Edward Island Bank is in circulation here, and there may be more of them. Keep a sharp lookout.

MR. J. C. MCCOMB has been appointed Indian relief agent for Victoria, Saddle Lake, Whitefish Lake and Lac la Biche, with residence at Victoria.

WORD was received here by last mail by Mr. Malcolm Gailbraith that a number of his old Headingly neighbors propose starting for Edmonton early in the spring.

MESSRS. ED. McPHERSON and S. Mulkins arrived from Bow River on Friday evening. McPherson's sleighs are expected in to-day. He made a very good trip, disposing of most of his goods and all his carts. Mr. Mulkins has completed the census in the southern district, and will commence at Edmonton forthwith.

AT the business meeting of the Presbyterian congregation here on Thursday evening in McDougall's Hall, Rev. Mr. Baird in the chair, a committee consisting of Messrs. Cameron, Fraser, Stewart, Ross, Wilson and McKay was appointed to solicit subscriptions towards the erection of a church, for the use of the congregation, on the lots donated for that purpose on the H.B.Co. town site. It was decided that the building should be frame, and it is desired that it should have a seating capacity of 200, which will necessitate a building 30x50.

## METEOROLOGICAL.

Weather report for week ending Thursday evening, 16th February, 1882. Reported for the BULLETIN by Mr. Geo. Slack Wood, observer at Edmonton.

	Max.	Min.
Friday,	16	8
Saturday,	9	-22
Sunday,	13	-19
Monday,	38	4
Tuesday,	1	-7
Wednesday,	-12	-13
Thursday,	-16	-52

The mark minus (-) signifies below zero. Barometer falling.

About five inches snow fell during Monday night, Tuesday and Tuesday night, accompanied by high winds. Highest wind record for week occurred Monday night, registering twenty-seven miles per hour. About thirteen inches snow on ground.

CANADIAN ALMANAC for 1882 at

FRANK OLIVER'S.

SAW MILL MACHINERY FOR SALE.—Complete except the rails. Terms half cash. T. SMITH.

GOLD RING LOST—On Saturday, Jan. 25th, somewhere between the steam mill and Brown's store, a lady's carved gold ring. The finder will receive a suitable reward on leaving it at the BULLETIN office.

BANNATYNE & CO.,

(successors to A. G. B. Bannatyne,)

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCERS and dealers in

PROVISIONS, WINES AND LIQUORS.

292 Main St., Winnipeg.

ANDREW STRANG.

JAMES BANNATYNE.

STALKER & HUTCHINGS,

Wholesale and Retail Manufacturers and Dealers in all kinds of Horse Clothing,

HARNESS & SADDLERY.

RETAIL—307 Main Street Winnipeg and opposite post office Portage la Prairie.

WHOLESALE—419 Main Street Winnipeg.

Special attention paid to orders from the North West.

MULHOLLAND BROS.,

323, Main Street, Winnipeg.

HARDWARE.

Builders Supplies, Mill Supplies, Belting, Lace Leather, Oils and Stoves.

Agents for the Washburns Manufacturing Company.

Galvanized, Steel Barbed Fence Wire.

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FORT SASKATCHEWAN, N.W.T.,

GENERAL TRADERS.

Highest Cash Prices for Fur.

COCHRANE RANCH CO. (LIMITED).

BOW RIVER.

Importers and Breeders of Thoroughbred and Grade Stock.

We will keep constantly on hand a full supply of beef cattle, work oxen, driving and saddle horses. Having purchased a band of American bred horses, mostly descendants of the celebrated trotting stallion "Live Oak," we can safely recommend them as unsurpassed in the Territory for action and endurance. We have also in our stables at present the thoroughbred stallions Moss Trooper and Konrad, both noted English and Kentucky bred horses. Their pedigrees can be seen at the offices of the BULLETIN and Saskatchewan Herald. One of these stallions would be sold next spring to make room for two Clyde stallions now en route from Scotland, as we intend in future to pay more attention to breeding farm and draft horses. We will have a shipment of thoroughbred horses and cattle arriving in Benton by the first boats next spring and will import on reasonable terms pure bred horses, cattle, sheep and pigs of any breed required for parties residing in the Bow River or Saskatchewan districts, provided we have their orders in time to enable us to ship with our stock in the spring. As the selection of all our thoroughbred stock is under the supervision of the noted stock raiser, Hon. M. H. Cochrane, parties trusting us with their orders can rely on getting animals of the purest strains. A limited number of mares would be received next season for services to thoroughbred or Clyde stallions. Terms, \$25 for the season.

Address—

MAJOR JAMES WALKER, Manager  
Bow River



## EDMONTON.

Ft. Edmonton is the centre of the settlement of the same name, and the chief post of the H.B.Co., which includes the Upper Saskatchewan country. It is situated on the north side of the Saskatchewan River, a few miles north-east of the point of the Beaver Hills, which lie on the south side of the river, and which is called by the Indians "Beaver Hills House." It is hard to say at what time the first fort was built here, but it is certain that in the days of the two companies—the H.B. and the North-West—each had an important post at this place, the H.B. on the flat below the present fort and the North-West on the flat above, near the residence of the late Dr. Verrey.

Since the present fort was built it has been, until the last few years, the most important of the interior posts. Here the inland boats, in which the supplies were brought from York Factory, were built, and from here every spring supplies and men were sent across the Mountains for the trade of what is now British Columbia, and at one time the principal trade of three Indian nations—Crees, Stonys and Blackfeet—was done here. Of course a large force of men had to be kept, and as these left the service a great many of them remained in the neighborhood, and thus the settlement began. Gold miners came from across the Mountains and whisky traders came in from Montana; and while most of them went away again a few remained. Buffalo were plentiful, work was to be had and gold dust was not scarce; and so the settlement grew. The Roman Catholic Church established a mission at St. Albert, on Big Lake, nine miles away, gathered a considerable settlement around, and made that place the head of a diocese. A Methodist mission was established near the Fort, and the claims in the vicinity began to be taken up, and shortly afterwards a Church of England mission was established. When the Canadian Government began to survey for a railroad across the Mountains, Edmonton was made the base of operations on the east side. When the Mounted Police were being sent into the country an important post was established in the vicinity; and when the Government buildings were to be erected at Battleford the lumber had to be procured near Edmonton. These operations all brought money to the settler and trader here, tended to increase the number of people and added to the importance of the place. The telegraph line was also built to near this place, and when a mail was granted Edmonton was made the terminus of the route. Steamers were put on the river and Edmonton became the head of navigation. The meridian line and base line surveys were made to this point. The Indian agency for the Upper Saskatchewan was placed here, the timber agency for a still larger district has been established, and now it appears that other important Government officials are to be appointed who will also reside here and help to add importance to the place.

While these things have been going on, settlement has increased more rapidly each year. The older settlers have improved their condition and increased their acreage, and the newer ones have went to work with a vigor that gives a certainty of good results. The past two seasons have been somewhat unfavorable; but still, although the population has more than doubled during the last four years, the home supply of food will be much greater than it was four years ago. At that time there was no grist mill here, and the agricultural machinery composed one broken-down two-horse thresher, an old reaper and one or two mowers, with perhaps two dozen plows. Now there are two grist mills running and another being prepared, two saw mills running, and last fall four large machines were required to thresh out the crop, while in the one season 8 reapers and 20 mowers were brought in for sale. Of course this is not a large number; but when the price is considered—at least double that in Winnipeg—and it is remembered that the settlers here all started without capital, it is not a bad showing.

None of this settlement has been made on speculation. The natural advantages of the country are the only inducements that any man has had in view, and railroad or no railroad each and all are prepared to stick by

what they have got. The announcement that the railroad would be built to Calgary instead of Edmonton has not shaken the confidence of a single man, although the road was expected to come here. In fact property never went at such high figures before that announcement was made as it has done since. The people here rest their hopes on the country and on themselves, not on the railroad or the Government. While the Saskatchewan runs down hill; while gold is money; while coal will burn or timber grow; or the seed produce seed after its kind, they ask no favors from any one, but with their own hands will build up in this country the best Province of the Dominion of Canada, and all the assistance they ask is that they be given a "fair shake."

## GENERAL NEWS.

THERE are 110 subscribers to the telephone exchange in Winnipeg.

COAL is said to exist on Bad Island, near Big Island, Lake Winnipeg.

HUGH SUTHERLAND & Bro. have sold out their business in Winnipeg.

THE Northern Pacific will run through trains by September of next year.

It is reported that the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway will be consolidated with the Northern Pacific.

THE Souris & Rocky Mountain Railway will cross the Little Saskatchewan a little below Rapid City.

THE expenses of the late President Garfield's illness will be paid by the U. S. Government to the amount of \$100,000.

ALLAN MANVEL, recently promoted to the general managership of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba road, gets a yearly salary of \$15,000.

It is proposed to erect the new Winnipeg jail on the Government reserve at Ft. Osborne. The residents in the vicinity are petitioning against it.

D. F. JONES, manufacturer, of Ganarogue, Ont., has purchased 15,000 acres of land near Pincher Creek, in the McLeod country, for a stock ranch.

A C.P.R. SURVEY party will make a traverse of the South Branch from the mouth of the Seven Persons' Creek to the mouth of the Red Deer, probably with a view to selecting a railway crossing.

MR. R. L. TUPPER contradicts the report that there are vast forests of pine north of Lake Huron. He claims to have travelled through that country, and speaks from personal knowledge.

THE congregation of Knox Church, Winnipeg, have decided to sell the present church building, and expect to realize therefrom in the neighborhood of \$75,000. A new church is to be erected on a site recently purchased in the vicinity of Manitoba College.

THE Souris & Rocky Mountain Railway Co. is applying for an amendment to their charter to enable them to change their route north of the fifty-first parallel, the Syndicate having cut them out of the country covered by their original charter. The Northern Pacific is said to be at the bottom of the scheme.

THE Globe correspondent, who had so many tribulations on his pilgrimage through the North-West, from his buckboard, his mares and that wicked Mail correspondent—the latter, however, were not inflicted on a suffering public—was nearly run over by a train while in the Emerson station yard after his return to civilization.

BOODY, McLELLAN & Co., New York, are receiving subscriptions for five million dollars first mortgage bonds of the Duluth & Winnipeg Railway. The bonds are dated May 1, 1881; have thirty years to run, carry interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually. They are issued at the rate of \$18,000 per mile, to provide means for the construction and equipment of the road, and are secured by first mortgage upon the franchises and entire railroad and property of the company, including a land grant of 6,400 acres per mile. The bonds are offered at 2 1/2 per cent. premium and accrued interest, or \$1,025 each.

Ad kinds of

FARMING IMPLEMENTS

at P. HINMINCKE.

OLIVER & McDONALD.

BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

Sash and doors on hand and made to order.

Plans and estimates of buildings furnished

Everything done with neatness and despatch.

OFFICE—Main Street.

J. G. OLIVER.

JAS. McDONALD.

JUST ARRIVED

The largest stock of

READY-MADE CLOTHING

yet brought into the City of Edmonton, and marked down at prices to suit the times.

Call, see and be convinced.

BOYS' SUITS, all sizes and prices.

OVERCOATS, all sizes and prices.

MENS' SUITS, all sizes and prices.

OVERCOATS, all sizes and prices.

A large lot of

HEAVY TWEED SHIRTS

very cheap. Call early and secure bargains

A large stock of

GENTS' WINTER UNDER CLOTHING

A few

LADIES' MANTLES,

superior in quality and very cheap

A fresh lot of

TEAS AND OTHER GROCERIES.

Stock in other lines well assorted

A. McDONALD & Co's



## LOCAL.

The last mail was very heavy, consisting of five large sacks of mail matter.

The supposed north and south lines of the H.B.Co. town plot survey are said to be five minutes east of north.

SINGING class is held every Saturday evening in the Belmont school house, conducted by Mr. T. Henderson. The attendance is large.

DANCES at Ft. Saskatchewan on Saturday and Monday evenings last in honor of the Victoria visitors, who left for home on Tuesday.

Six sleds arrived from Victoria on Saturday last with bacon and other supplies for the H.B.Co. They left on Monday for Bow River with seed grain.

The number of messages sent and received at the Edmonton telegraph office since the first of the month amounts to about 150, equivalent to \$250 worth of business.

HEAVIEST fall of snow for the season on Monday night—about four inches. Tuesday and Wednesday were the stormiest days and Wednesday night the coldest up to date.

MR. J. LAKE moved into his new house on the Sinclair property on Wednesday last. It is on the site of the one so summarily removed last week. He occupies it on behalf of the proprietors.

FLOUR is plentiful now, but prices run from \$10 to \$15 per sack for wheat and \$6 to \$8 for barley flour. Wheat is \$2.50 to \$3, barley \$1.25 to \$1.50, and potatoes \$1.50 to \$2. Oats almost out of market.

THE fever and sore throat which was prevalent here amongst the grown up people during the last two months has abated, but a few of the children both at Edmonton and St. Albert are suffering from whooping cough.

THE name of Mr. Guildert was omitted from the list of performers in the minstrel show at Ft. Saskatchewan on Thursday evening of last week. He took a number of prominent parts and received a full share of the applause.

A MEETING of the settlers concerned in Bourne's survey was held a few evenings ago, at which all except Mr. D. M. McDougall, on behalf of David McDougall, agreed to accept their titles on his survey, providing they can get them. The plan is now in Ottawa.

A MEETING of the vigilance committee is called for this afternoon at two o'clock in the school house, for the purpose of allowing those who wish to join it as an open society an opportunity to do so. A meeting of the executive committee is to be held at one o'clock.

MR. P. BALLENDINE, of Battleford, who has the sub contract for carrying the mail between that place and Edmonton, is expected here with the next mail. He will arrange matters along the mail route, and bring up a large amount of express matter which is on the way.

A PETITION, to which over one hundred names were attached, was sent down by last mail asking that a weekly mail be run between Winnipeg and Edmonton, and also that a money order office be established here. Petitions to the same effect from St. Albert and Ft. Saskatchewan will be sent next mail.

THE Crookrite brothers, who left here last summer on their way to South Africa, have been heard from. Instead of taking passage from San Francisco, as they intended, they went to New York and then to Liverpool, but instead of going on returned to their former home in the county of Middlesex, Ontario. They write that they intend to return to Edmonton by way of Montana next summer, intending to be in Montana this winter.

MR. G. S. WOOD received a telegram on Monday last from Dr. L. Munro, house surgeon of the Winnipeg General Hospital, to the effect that he would start by stage for Edmonton on the 23rd inst., and asking that the stock of medicines left by Dr. Verey should be secured for him. Mr. Wood telegraphed in answer—"Executor late Dr. Verey's estate secures medicines for you at as low and liberal a figure as possible." Dr. Munro comes in response to the telegrams sent to Winnipeg asking for a medical man, and is highly recommended by Dr. Lynch.

NOTWITHSTANDING the late cold weather, the school building is said to be quite comfortable.

F. WILSON and D. M. McDougall left for Bow River on Monday. They will be absent three or four weeks.

It is said that Mr. L. George has telegraphed to the U. S. Consul at Winnipeg, and in accordance with his advice has made a complaint to the Ottawa Government, laying his damages at \$10,000. Not a bad price for a hundred dollar shanty.

THE Battle River and Bear's Hills Indians are returning from the plains with the news "no buffalo but plenty starvation." A great many of them are suffering from consumption. They are living principally on rats and jack fish from Buffalo Lake.

A HORSE belonging to an Indian named Ske-ne-keew committed suicide last Tuesday. He walked deliberately out of the Fort gate and over the precipice in front, getting a drop and slide of about 100 feet. No cause has been assigned for the rash act unless that he became discouraged in his endeavors to remember his owner's name.

ON Saturday last Mr. Colin Fraser sold his property here to Mr. J. A. Macdonald for \$10,000, \$850 down, the balance to be deposited in the H.B.Co. bank in Winnipeg as soon as satisfactory writings are drawn. The property consists of what will probably be known as lot No. 4 of the river claims, reckoning eastward from the boundary of the H.B.Co. reserve. It has a width of about ten chains and fronts on the river, running back nominally three miles. As another party has settled on the land on the other side of Rat Creek it is likely that the claim will only run to there, so that the property will be ten chains in width by about a mile in depth, giving an area of 90 or 100 acres. The Main street runs across the front of the property near the river, and most of the lots on each side have been sold and buildings erected on them—in fact the greater part of our little town is on this property. On the river side of Main street, reckoning from the west, are Villiers & Pearson's store and dwelling, Oliver's store and dwelling, Macdonald's Hall, Lake's dwelling, St. Jean's store building, occupied by Mr. P. Heilmann, St. Jean's cabinet shop and Hogarth's dwelling, and on the opposite side Oliver & McDonald's office and carpenter shop, McDonald's dwelling, Fraser's dwelling, Brown & Curry's store, Sanderson & Luby's blacksmith shop and Kelly's shoe shop. As no title has yet been given for the place, and it has not even been surveyed, fears are entertained that when the surveys are made and the patent granted, disputes may arise between the different occupants, and should this be the case it will have the effect of lowering the value of the property and causing those who have built on it considerable loss. Hopes are entertained, however, that the patents will be granted on Bourne's private survey, which was made last fall, and that they will be here next spring. In the meantime all the parties concerned are in a rather ticklish position.

HON. A. MACKENZIE, former leader of the Reform party, is about to resign his seat in Parliament, which he holds as member for Lambton, and run for East York. As Mr. Mackenzie is one of the leading spirits in a million dollar grab of North West lands, it is hard to see how he can be supported by the papers which are opposed to speculation in North-West lands being allowed.

It is said that the Arabs judge of the wholesomeness of water by the presence or absence of insects in it, as perfectly clear water without animal life is sure to be noxious. For the information of next year's pilgrims we remark that the same rule holds throughout the North-West.

SIR JOHN MACDONALD is again unwell.

SLEIGH SHOE STEEL at

FRANK OLIVER'S

REAL ESTATE AGENCY—Parties in the East wishing to invest in Real Estate in Edmonton or vicinity will find it to their advantage to correspond with

MESSRS McKAY & BLAKE,  
Edmonton, N.W.T.

## CITY OF EDMONTON,

situated at the head of navigation on the North Saskatchewan River; the centre of the Gold, Coal, Timber and Mineral region of the Great North-West, and surrounded by the richest wheat-producing country in the world.

The four great highways leading from Winnipeg, the great Bow River grazing country, the Peace River country and British Columbia via the Jasper Pass, centre on the Town Site.

It is the terminus of the C.P. telegraph line, the North-West mail route, and the projected Saskatchewan branch of the C.P.R.

The Hudson's Bay Co. offer for sale 1,000 lots on the above town site at low prices and on reasonable terms.

All information can be had by applying at the H.B.Co. offices in Winnipeg or Montreal,

R. MCGINN, Agent, Edmonton. C. J. BRYDGES, Commissioner.

P. HEIMINCK'S,

Edmonton and Ft. Saskatchewan, is the place to go for

DRY GOODS, CLOTHING,

GROCERIES, PROVISIONS,

HARDWARE, ETC.

BANKING HOUSE

—of—

A. MACDONALD & Co., Edmonton

transact a general banking business. Deposits received and drafts issued on Battleford, Winnipeg and all points east.

A. MACDONALD & Co.

A. MACDONALD & Co.

will take all kinds of

FARM PRODUCE IN EXCHANGE FOR GOODS

X. ST. JEAN,

CABINET MAKER.

Steam Furniture Factory in rear of Heilmann's store, Main St.

All descriptions of household furniture kept constantly on hand.

Go to P. Heilmann's for

EIGHT-DAY CLOCKS.

BEEF FOR SALE

BY THE

CUT OR CARCASE

AT THE MARKET HOUSE,

at lowest rates for cash or grain.

D. M. McDOUGALL,  
Beef Contractor

VILLIERS & PEARSON,

EDMONTON,

have now on hand a very large and well assorted stock of goods.

Carts arriving every week.

LAUDERDALE HOUSE,

(Opposite Frank Oliver's store.)

MAIN STREET, EDMONTON

JAMES LAUDER, PROPRIETOR.

First-class weekly and day board at reasonable rates.

Livery and feed stable attached.



## THE EDMONTON BULLETIN

will be published every Saturday morning from the 29th of October until the 1st of May.

Subscription for the season, \$2.00

Advertising rates:—Five lines, three insertions, \$1.00; ten lines, three months, \$5.00; ten lines, six months, \$10.00.

Job work done neatly, quickly and cheaply at the BULLETIN office.

Terms strictly cash.

All communications to be addressed to Frank Oliver, Edmonton, or A. Dunlop, Winnipeg.

One-half of the term for which the BULLETIN is published having expired, it will be given for the balance of the term for \$1.00.

OLIVER & DUNLOP,  
Proprietors.

EDMONTON BULLETIN, FEB. 18, 1882.

### THE VIGILANCE COMMITTEE.

At the meeting on Monday evening of last week it was decided that the vigilance committee to be organized should be a secret society, as the fact of its being in that form would give the members greater freedom of action in carrying out the objects of the society, leave them less liable to fall into the hands of the Philistines, make their decrees more feared, and give the society a better chance to act promptly and with effect than were it open so that all parties could keep themselves informed as to both its strength and weakness, the objects on which the members were united as well as those which were the cause of disputes. On the other hand a large proportion of the population who would be most enthusiastic in supporting any action against claim-jumping would be hindered by the rules of the church to which they belong from becoming members of the society while it was secret, and who might not feel like supporting the action of a body to which they did not belong. Another argument was that many others have a general distaste for going into anything that will not bear full daylight, and amongst these are some of the principal men of the settlement who would be willing to belong and lend their moral support to the society were it open, but would shrink from binding themselves by an oath to an association whose actions might have the appearance of lawlessness. The meeting of last Saturday night decided, after fully discussing the matter, that the society should henceforth be open, new members to be admitted by a three-fourths vote of the members present, and that a standing committee of thirteen members, including the captain and two lieutenants, should have power to take action in cases where promptitude and secrecy were necessary, with the understanding that the whole society should back them.

While we deplore the necessity for the existence of a society which shall have for its object the taking of the law into its own hands, there is no doubt that the necessity for such a society exists, and it should be so constituted that there would be nothing in the way of any man who wished to protect his neighbor's or be protected in his own rights, from becoming a member. As the society proposes to take up and deal with cases in which the law will not give justice, public opinion to be the judge, so its actions should at all times, except in exceptional cases, be open to judgment by the same tribunal. If there is a necessity for the society, and its actions are right, whether strictly according to law or not, public opinion will endorse them; but if there is no necessity for it, or if its actions are such that public opinion will

not endorse them, then it should not exist.

Were those who believe in upholding the squatter's right to the land in a minority there might be good reason for them forming themselves into a secret society, but as the matter stands at present they are in an overwhelming majority, and the knowledge of their numbers must be as great a source of strength to themselves and weakness to their opponents as if the society were ever so secret.

Let those who wish to steal their neighbors' land bind themselves to secrecy by oath, but let those who wish to uphold right for right's sake do so in broad daylight, challenging criticism from all quarters and relying only on the justice of their cause and their good right arms. By acting in this manner they will secure themselves the support of right thinking men throughout the country and will, in case of serious trouble, be supported by the community at large in carrying out measures which would condemn them at once in the eyes of the public were they done by a secret committee ruled by—no one could say whom.

### NEW PROVINCES.

From our telegrams of last week it seems that allusion has been made in the "speech from the throne" to the division of the present North-West Territory into four or more provincial districts. This is a measure that all must approve of. Owing to the immense size of the territory and the fact that its lines of trade do not all run in the same direction, it is impossible that any single point in it could be suitable for the seat of a government whose duties would of necessity be of a purely local nature. The matters to be attended to being of importance only to particular sections it is unreasonable to ask that the members of the legislature, supposing there was one from one corner of the country should lose a month or two in travelling to the capital for the purpose of legislating on matters which might only interest the people of the other corner. If there was a probability of any point within the territory becoming the centre of trade for it, whether it were about the geographical centre or not, that place should be made the capital, and the people should not be saddled with the support of a number of petty governments, which would be always steeped in poverty like most of the provinces of the Dominion. But there is no such point. Winnipeg is at present, and perhaps always be, the trade centre for the greater part of the territory, while Benton and Helena, in Montana, take the trade of the South-western portion.

As the settlements exist at present, there seems to be a tendency for the country to divide itself into four districts, and the Government could not do better than to confirm these divisions by legislation, making each division a provincial district, to be allowed a local government when the population had increased to such an extent as to make such a government necessary and to warrant the outlay. The part of the territory immediately west of Manitoba, as far as the South Branch, naturally draws direct to Winnipeg, and should have that place as its capital. The population of the Bow and Belly River countries is at present centred around McLeod and Calgary, and one of these points should be made the capital of it. The centre of population of the Lower Saskatchewan country is Prince Albert, as Edmonton is of the Upper Saskatchewan, while the Peace River is separate altogether from the rest of the territory. These are the districts into which the territory should be divided, and while they would not be so large as to be unwieldy, or to exercise undue influence on the res. of the Do-

minion, they are large enough to support a numerous population, and when that population is in existence, a local government.

It is to be hoped that if these provinces are formed now they will not be saddled with useless and expensive governmental machinery such as has been the case of Manitoba up to the present time; but if they are granted a local government at all, it will be of the simplest kind—on the plan of a municipal council.

While the natural resources of the country, land, timber and minerals, are entirely in the hands of the general Government, it is folly to set up expensive mock governments which will be unable to deal with those most vital parts of the country's interests. As long as these matters are in the hands of men at Ottawa, so long every effort should be made to secure influence there. It is a matter of far more present importance to the people of the territory to secure representation at Ottawa than it is to have any number of petty capitals and mock governments erected amongst them, and every energy should be bent to secure this point.

And lastly we have a Primitive Methodist Colonization Company. We humbly submit that this is running the thing into the ground. When the very churches turn land grabbers or lend their names and influence to such schemes, it is about time to stop if there is ever to be a stop made. But if the country is to be handed over to land sharks of every shade and kind, what is the use of prolonging the agony? Let us induce enough dissatisfied old country landlords to come out and divide the country between them, settle their serfs on the land and inaugurate a new Ireland on an immense scale, which shall be a reproach to Canada and a disgrace to the world.

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